



## A Word From Our President Molly Peterson, Pres of CCHS and Director of CCHS and Rockwall

Could it really be 2013! What an amazing year we had. The CCHS team placed just under 700 dogs making our total adoption number since we began in 2008 a whopping 2,793!! We could not do this without our dedicated team of volunteers, fosters, sponsors and of course adopters. They say it takes a village to move mountains and CCHS truly is moving mountains. We thank you all for supporting and being part of our wonderful team!

In this issue of Paw Print's quarterly newsletter read all about Gunner the Thunder dog, how Gus's loss of vision is working to save lives, follow up from the Annual Give a Dog a Home Gala, many Happy Tails and more! If you would like to advertise or have story leads for our newsletter, please let us know. We look forward to a wonderful new year and we wish you and your family all the best!



If you are interested in advertising in our newsletter please contact pres@CollinCountyHumaneSociety.org

Adv	ertisi	ing	<b>Rates</b>

1" x 1/2"	\$25.00
3" x 2"	\$50.00
3" x 4 1/2"	\$75.00
2 1/2" x 8"	\$100.00

Past Newsletters

Fall 2012 Newsletter

Summer 2012 Newsletter

Winter 2011 Newsletter

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## A Special Thanks to our Members

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BECOME A MEMBER: As a member you will receive a quarterly newsletter highlighting members donations and how they are being put to use in the CCHS adoption program. You will also receive info about upcoming events as well as being entered in an annual drawing for prizes.

To become a member click here



Do you want to help? ChipIn **Donation Form** Buy a Brick / Tile

Gala Update **By Molly Peterson** 

Thank you to everyone who attended the 3rd Annual Give a Dog a Home Gala held at the Dallas World Aquarium Oct 13, 2012. The event was a huge success with \$60,000 raised for the new Adoption Facility (click HERE for a link to our Adoption Facility plans).

Thank you to the event's premiere sponsor Arthur Benjamin, founder of American Dog Rescue. Arthur helped raise even more money for CCHS through his gift matching program! Roy and Kristine Mohr with Spec's Wine Spirits and Finer Foods donated all of the wine and beer for the event and held a fund raiser just before the event selling hot dogs at their Dallas location to raise \$400 for CCHS! Our Silver Sponsor, CCHS fosters Phil and Silvana Smith have always been amazing supporters of CCHS. We thank the Smith Family for always being there to help fur kids in need and fuel our fundraising efforts.

Our Bronze sponsor Platinum Pet Memorial Service located in McKinney, TX. PPMS helps ease the stress of the bereavement process for families grieving the loss of a beloved pet. Thank you to Capital One Bank's Plano location for sponsoring the \$1,000 Visa Gift Card raffle that was donated back to CCHS by the winner, Arthur Benjamin.

Thank you to Novoworks and Inlight Gobo Lighting for donating all of the signs and lighting for the event!

Paradise for Paws also donated a week stay at their luxurious resort complete with doggie pedicures, massages, a bone shaped pool and airport transfer to and from the day care!

Of course the night would not have been complete without the Justice Award presentation from last years winner Animal Rescue Corps to this years winner Texas Humane Legislative Network. To end the night, doggie gear donated by PetsMart was given to all of the guests along with gift bags and VIP guests received wine and additional parting gifts.

Thank you to Walquist Photography for taking photos at the event. Check out more photos from the event on Walquist Photography's Dropbox. A special thanks to Celeta Bettison for these Gala photos.

We thank you all for your support and look forward to seeing you all next year!





Gala Update







## **Just Another Dog Hunt** By Tressa Broadhead, CCHS VP Marketing

Ah...just another typical sunny Sunday morning in N. Texas, and I decide to not only wash my car, but vacuum out an almost year's accumulation of dog hair from under the seats, between the tiny cracks in the console, etc. Halfway through the left rear seat, I get a phone call that a former foster dog was missing not too far from my house. The dog managed to slip out of the adopters hands just last night while on a walk, and just an hour before a large storm. I receive a lot of 'lost dog' calls, and since I know the drill, I offer to call the adopter. I instructed the adopter that the fastest way to find the dog (and the most reliable at that) is posters. Everywhere, Posters, offered to help make posters and hang them in the neighborhood, but the adopter refused and let me know she would take care of that immediately.

Now, I rarely feel the need to follow up on most adults, but thankfully, I did just that. As I drive through the adopters' neighborhood on Monday, I cannot find one poster for that little black dog. Sigh. No one can be found if someone doesn't know to look. So I set off to make 50 posters to place around the neighborhood, and quickly plot the most likely routes the dog could take in google maps. I wait, but another 24 hours later, still no calls to our feelers we have at vets, shelters, and the posters. Small dog, predators everywhere, big storm. The cards are quickly stacking up against this little 10lb muffin.



Stacy, another fellow board member of CCHS, suggested that we hire the dog detective. A few posts on Facebook later, and we have a generous donation from a CCHS follower that they will PAY for the service! Wednesday Night finds us all on the adopters' street just after dark, and we set off- four women, one dog and a few flashlights. We spend about two hours walking all over town and while we were hot on the scent, she was nowhere to be seen. The next day, I expand my posters to include the neighborhood where Kat from Dog Gone Pet Detectives and her German Shepard with the magic snout tracked her and decide to cast my net a little broader into a few more neighborhoods, even though there hasn't been a sighting.

As I drive out of my neighborhood Thursday, I spy a little black dog up the street from my house! Oh my...she found me! I summon up all my track skills in hot pursuit, leaving my car running on a busy street at 7:45 am. She won't escape me! Just as I catch her, I realize by her tags....this isn't the girl. I have successfully trapped someone else's pet. Sigh.

Then, Thursday afternoon...it happened. I got the call. A man in the same neighborhood where Kat tracked the dog into has seen her! Quickly, three of us, Morgan, Linda and myself go to the neighborhood and drive...and walk...and drive....and walk. Two hours later, she is spotted! The poor little girl is terrified, exhausted (it pays to have a college soccer star in hot pursuit), and hiding in thick bush in a park not too far. No one can get to her through the bush. The former foster Lynette is called to the scene, Stacy our board member and Animal Control is all working to get her trapped. We even pulled in the Blue Buffalo dog food rep in the search! Lynette, the dogs foster, is the only one that can convince her to stay put long enough so she can grab her. The five of us are covered in mud, scrapes all over our legs and arms from the thorns in the brush, but we have a dog in our hands....She is thin, tired, coughing and quite thirsty. But alive!

The girl has found a new home-with a secure fence and leash. She is named Shadow...because she chooses to follow her new mommy around everywhere. We don't really blame her. She's aware of what life on the mean streets looks like.

Many thanks to the various individuals that assisted in the search - Linda Grady and Morgan

mhenterpriseonline.com/Dog\_Hunt.html

emplu **Donation Form** Buy a Brick / Tile Name a Room Sponsor a Dog Run Donate PayPal

Do you want to help?

**Disco is looking** for a furever home



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Disco has a bit of a sad story...Her person, that bviously loved her very much, passed away. Disco was very broken up about it and would actually escape from the shelter to govisitherMom's grave :( All she needed to mend her broken heart was some love and attention. Disco is a happy girl again, and wants another ome to give her heart to.

To adopt this precious pet or see so many others that need a loving home, click here. collincountyhumanesociety.org/available-dogs.html



Hoerth from Camp Bow Wow Coppell, John from Blue Buffalo, The City of Coppell Animal Services, Lynette Klinkhammer, Stacy Hague, and myself from Collin County Humane Society.



## This site is best viewed in ogle Chrome or Apple Safa

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Because your Best Friend Deserves The Best"

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## **Short Stories - Big Hearts**

## Lilli By Pat Van Hooser

l adopted Lilli October 11th. Everyone who meets her is absolutely captivated by her face. She is just the cutest dog ever. She looks at you with those bright eyes and then you can see the imp jump into her - her eyes get bright and then she pounces! Tonight is our second obedience training class. So far I am doing great, don't know about Lilli! Although I hate leaving her alone all day, we have plenty of walk and play time in the evenings. She loves the apartment complex with the ducks and the chance to chase squirrels. Every weekend she goes with me to Oklahoma where I have another place. The cats that live on the place tolerate her except for when she pounces. The horses intimidate her but they are the only things that do! She has changed my life entirely. Thanks. Pat



## Chester (formerly known as Griffin) **By Kristine Kyriakides**



This is one story of Happy Tails. We adopted Chester (formerly known as Griffin) from CCHS in March 2011. Chester was picked up as a stray and sent to a local country shelter where he awaited for someone to come looking for him. No one ever did so CCHS stepped up and brought him into their program.

Chester did not know what it meant to be a pet. He did not know the purpose of toys, dog beds, and what it meant to feel loved. We suspected he may have been purposely dumped and mistreated, as sometimes in the beginning he would cower when we approached him to put on his leash.



Over time we gained his trust and he came out of his shell. Within a few months, he learned his new name, that balls are fun to chase, both doggie beds and human beds are a nice place to nap, he stopped inhaling his food in 5 seconds since he knew he would get dinner every night, and that mommy and daddy give him a LOT of belly rubs and kisses. Car rides mean going on an adventure which make for an extra special day!

When people ask me what kind of dog Chester is, my standard response is he is a spoiled rescue dog. His "breed" is immaterial to us. He is such a joy to have in our family; I'm not sure who loves who more! Chester is such a happy doggie.

We are thankful for the work of CCHS, for the CCHS foster parents and for bringing Chester into our lives.

## Phoebe By Rachel Kendall

I've attached a recent picture of Phoebe. She is quite happy in her new home now. She was a bundle of nerves when she first arrived, but we couldn't be happier with her. We bought her a sweater the other day for the cooler weather and she was so excited when she was able to put it on and run outside to play. She has made guite a few friends in our neighborhood - a lab named Scout and a standard poodle named Jax to name a few. She made her first trip to the country recently and even swam in the pond and rode on the 4 wheeler with the kids and watched the horses run. She is Austin's little shadow and has won our hearts.





## Lily (formerly Lillian) By Joan Lawrence

We live in Commerce, Tx and while watching WFAA news one evening we saw where 52 maltese dogs, as well as some others, had been dumped out by some puppy mill who would have to abide by the new Texas laws for breeders. My heart went out to these little creatures as they really seemed desparate for survival. We have a 2 year old maltipoo and could not imagine her having to live in those conditions or try to survive in the woods by herself. We decided to check out the possibility of adopting a rescue so our Bailey would have a playmate. Since adopting Lily (a maltese from that group) about 3 weeks ago from the Collin County Human Society our lives have changed immensely, and that includes Bailey's! We are a long way from having Lily completely comfortable with us, but the joy it has been watching her adapt to the relaxed life of a dog and becoming part of our family has been a joy. Bailey has taught her to jump through the dog door and she follows Bailey everywhere. They run and chase each other and when tired they curl up together and sleep. We are having some issues with Lily barking now that she has gotten comfortable with her surroundings and also potty training. But she has only been with us for a short time and we are confident we will conquer these tasks. We love her and so glad we reached out to make her part of our family. This wonderful little creature is so sweet and is lots of company for our Bailey and us. I encourage anyone who is a dog lover to make a rescue dog part of their family.









## By Shelley Padilla

We love our Kitty (formerly Kiki)! She has blossomed quite a lot in the 2 months since she came to live with us. When she first came to our home she was fearful, running or hiding under chairs to avoid human contact. Fortunately, she fell right into step with her sister dogs Mimi, a 10 year old toy poodle, and Magic a 5 year old rescued shih tzu. The combination of other dogs and our continued gentle and patient approach brought her out of her shell slowly but surely. She now freely allows my husband and me to pet her and pick her up. And although she is still somewhat nervous around our 16 year old son, and daughters aged 14 and 12, we are sure she will come around to trusting all of us eventually.

Bringing Kitty into our home has been a great lesson in compassion. Grace, our 12 year old daughter, has even begun a fund-raising project with two friends. They call it Protecting Animals With Swag (PAWS) in which they make bracelets out of pop can tabs to sell for a donation amount of the buyer's choice. All money they make will be donated to the Humane Society. You can check out their work at www.pawspop.com



Thank you Kitty for enriching our lives. We love you so very much and are so happy you are a part of our family!

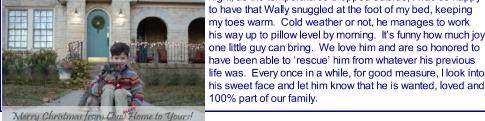


## Wally (formerly known as Alexander) By Bethany Childress

It's been almost six weeks since we adopted Wally into our family and I'm not sure how we made it without him. He has managed to fit into our life and add so much to everything we do. My son gladly finishes his chores in the morning so that he can have 'Wally' time playing in the back yard. Last night, as the temperatures dropped outside. I was so happy

#### Short Stories

his way up to pillow level by morning. It's funny how much joy



Weezy (formerly known as Lilith)

## By Julie Cavellini

After adopting my sweet maltipoo Lucy four years ago I knew I was hooked on little white dogs. So when I saw the news piece on the 51 dumped maltese I knew I had to rescue one! I read all the articles and posts about them and put in an application immediately. I was thrilled when my fiance and I got the call to meet little #44! We brought Lucy to meet her and although Lucy wasn't exactly interested she wasn't aggressive so we took it as a good sign. We took this sweet little girl home the next day and called her Weezy - after Weezy Jefferson who "moved on up to the east side" We thought that was the perfect name for a doggie who came from such terrible beginnings! Weezy is adjusting on schedule. She is starting to develop a personality and show us some love as she starts to trust us. She is growing some hair back and getting so cute! We are so happy to be able to spoil her and give her a wonderful life she's never known Thank you for chosing us to be her parents!!

Weezy Before



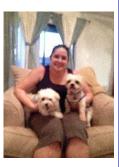


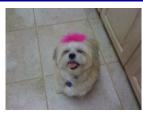


### Preston and Bruiser **By Anna Spence**



I have always known that I wanted to be a pet owner. I was searching for my companion when I came across two very special guys. Before I knew it I was introduced to Preston and Bruiser. I have to admit, when I first took the boys home, I felt a little overwhelmed, like a new parent being thrown into the mix with two large personalities. However, we quickly bonded and I cannot imagine my life without them. They bring me so much joy and happiness and I just love seeing their little faces! I am so grateful that they found me and that I was able to give them a fur-ever home! Thank you CCHS for saving my boys and giving us both the opportunity for a wonderful life together.





### Mitzi (formerly Pressley) By Glen and Dottie Crim

After a few initial days of shyness, Mitzi (formerly Pressley) has now become a full fledged member of our family. She had been shorn of her beautiful coat due to the conditions in which she had been found from living on the street and didn't even look much like a ILhasa Apso. Our poodle. Babette, was a bit jealous of the intruder during that early period adjust to her. She ate well from the very start and still has a great appetite. As soon as we get home from work every day her and Babette love to run after the rabbits in the back yard even though they never get very close. After the rabbit run the next thing is dinner time and then they force me into my recliner to watch the news. Mitzi has had her teeth cleaned and her hair now looks like she belongs to her breed. All in all she has been a joyous addition to our family and we look forward to many years in the future.

Sir Curly





## Meet Sir Curly Our Featured Rescue

My name is Sir Curly. I am a 9-year-old Retriever/Mix. Sadly, my owner had to surrender me to the Collin Count Humane Society because of health issues and could no longer care for me. I am looking for a furever home and I know I will find one because my foster mom says I am a very good boy. I love people and other dogs - large and small. I also get along with cats - as well as anyone can get along with cats. Ha funny animals - aren't they!

I am completely house trained and have the run of the house during the day while my foster mom is at work. When she comes home, we go for rides in the car, or for a walk and I always get treats because I am well behaved - YUM! Hove treats. I sleep in my own bed at night so I really won't be a bother. If you are looking for a loyal companion that does not need any training, I am the perfect choice. I will fit easily into your family. I promise lots love. Please come meet me today!



## Stats:

1/17/13

Curly has been neutered, HW tested (Neg), current on vaccinations and current on HW prevention. He is looking for his furever home, please complete an online application today at: <a href="http://www.collincountyhumanesociety.org/adoption-application.html">http://www.collincountyhumanesociety.org/adoption-application.html</a>









## The Journey of a Thunder Dog By Heather McCoy

Have you ever seen a dog terrified during a storm? Or a pet hide in a closet, bathtub, under the bed or trembling in fear before we even know a storm is approaching. For anyone who has seen storm anxiety, you know how difficult it can be to help your pet overcome the intense fear of storms. Gunner on the other hand has a whole other level of storm anxiety. While most dogs try to hide in small spaces as the storms roll in, Gunner the Thunder Dog would try to run for higher ground. No amount of thunder shirts, medication, crate training or routine efforts were able to put a dent in the level of anxiety Gunner exhibited when storms were entering the DFW area. Unfortunately Gunner could not tell us about his "tail" before he came to CCHS; but below is the story of how Gunner came to be a CCHS doggie, how we worked tirelessly to help decrease his storm anxiety and in the end... his happily ever after!

Gunner first came into the picture as a stray doggie who was picked up by Garland Animal Services. He started out as one of the many foster doggies who was taken in by our very own CCHS VP, Ashley Pickering. Gunner was thought to be a senior due to a super grey muzzle but upon veterinary exam it was evident that not only was he not a senior but he was approximately 2 years old! Who knew that dog's hair can grey when they are under stress?!

We do not know how many homes he had before we found him, but it didn't take long for his journey to start with Gunner's new families (yes, you read that correctly, "Families"). Two weeks in foster care and he had already found his first furever home, or so we thought. Six months later we were contacted by a home wanting to update his microchip info. They had adopted him off craigslist the day prior from the family we had entrusted to take care of Gunner until his last days. After several conversations with the previous adopters it was discovered that Gunner had started having severe anxiety during storms that the family was no longer able to manage. Instead of contacting CCHS to return him to us, they "sold" him on craigslist to a family in the country. Upon screening the new home, it was agreed that living in a trailer home, under a porch with no fence was not the best place for Gunner to live out his life. Transport was arranged immediately and he was brought back into foster care once again in search of a forever home to

## call his own.

Being that we were in high storm season, we learned very quickly that Gunner had severe storm anxiety. Two weeks after we got him back, he was adopted again to a new family with the knowledge and tools to help manage his storm anxiety. Two months later the family contacted us to seek guidance as his anxiety was getting worse with every storm. The thunder shirt, medication and 6 point crate no longer contained him and when a storm rolled in he would get tunnel vision trying to find higher ground. It would take him 24 hours to calm down after a storm and the anxiety was palpable whereby causing stress on the family. If he wasn't 80lbs, this wouldn't be as difficult to handle but given his size we all agreed that Gunner needed professional on site training. The family loved him and wanted to work through the issues which was perfect as the trainer we had lined up will only work with animals who have a place to return to in order to keep up the training exercises. Week one, the family contacted often for updates and they were excited for his progress and return. but by week six the emails trailed off and contact about his follow-up training went unanswered. By his release at week nine, the family decided that they were not in a position to take him back into their home; Gunner was homeless once again heading back into foster care.

Gunner was moved into a new foster home where he continued his desensitization training to re-learn how to manage his anxiety. At this point, his anxiety had been managed through medication adjustments and daily storm tapes with positive reinforcement. At first he would get a little nervous and pace but would calm down when he saw the other doggies in the home, completely passed out and not worrying one bit. All Gunner wanted was to be by his humans and to be loved on all day long.

Gunner received a few good apps, but one stood out above all the rest. This family of five just recently lost their older male golden to cancer and was finding it hard to adjust to life with only one dog, a gorgeous golden girl. After many emails and talking on the phone, the foster mom packed Gunner up and took him to Flower Mound to hopefully meet his new family. There were mhenterpriseonline.com/Thunder.html



## Rocko is looking for a furever home



leet Rocko...a 1 vear old Nire-haired Dachshund! He was found at the All American Dogs shelter in Pilot Point and had been here since December. He vas put on the Euth list but a volunteer found him and asked CCHS for help just in time! He is a sweet boy and very playful! He gets along well with other dog and kids of all shapes and sizes but he does like to chase cats a bit because e thinks it's fun!

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Tree

To adopt this precious pet or see so many others that need a loving home, click here. <u>collincountyhumanesociety.org/available-dogs.html</u>



no plans on him being adopted that day, but after spending about two hours with the family and watching them interact with Gunner, the foster mom said "my heart told me he was home." They had already dealt with a golden that had anxiety issues, they understood his needs and were committed to his care.

As you can see from his picture, Gunner is an eighty pound lap dog that is now living the life of luxury and love. Gunner wants for nothing and gets all of the attention a loving family member deserves. Our thoughts are always with this family and we enjoy the glowing updates on his progress with his "furever" home.

So now you know the tail of our Thunder Dog. Please keep him in mind when a storm blows through and send him warm and calming thoughts so that he can sleep calmly with his family. If you have a dog with severe storm anxiety, please contact <u>Karen Deeds with Canine Connection</u>.





Holiday Tips





## Do you want to help?



year is beautiful and festive, many of our holiday decorations, and winter preparations can be hazardous to the health of our pets. The ASPCA has compiled a list of common things we see this time of year which can be dangerous for our furkids.

Foods to avoid feeding your pets:

- Alcoholic beverages
- Avocado
- Chocolate (all forms)
- Coffee (all forms)
- Fatty foods
- Macadamia nuts
- Moldy, or spoiled foods
- Onions, onion powder
- Raisins and grapes
- Salt
- Yeast dough
- Garlic
- Products sweetened with xylitol

Cold Weather Hazards:

- Antifreeze
- Liquid potpourri
- Ice melting products
- Rat and mouse bait

## Holiday Hazards:

- Christmas tree water (may contain bacteria, tree preservatives, and/or fertilizers)
- Electrical cords
- Ribbons or tinsel (most often occurs with kittens)
- Batteries
- Glass ornaments

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http://doggieswonderland.com/





## Ginger's First Anniversary By Amanda Holt

Hi foster mom. It's hard to believe, but today is one year since my mom adopted me. I want to thank you for being there for me and my pups. But mostly, I want to thank you for finding the almost perfect home. I say almost, because I LOVE to play, and I never get enough playtime. Between long walks, and wrestling with my best buddy Chloe, and playing with the cats, and more wrestling with Chloe, the day goes by too fast to play more!

I have finally started to grow more fur. I look so cute. I'm 19 and a half pounds. The perfect weight. I take ten seconds now to eat instead of 3seconds. I get really good treats. And get this.... I get all kinds of fruits and vegetables. My favorite is probably bananas.

I pretty much stopped eating my dad's shoes. Mom never yelled at me for that. She did yell at dad though. Put your shoes AWAY! I do occasionally destroy the cats toys. I don't get yelled at for that either. As a matter of fact, mom has never yelled at me. I have heard her say, WHAT WERE YOU THINKING!!!!!

My mom has given me an A. She said if I would have gotten an A plus that I would be boring. I don't get to take walks with Chloe very often. Mom says that we are obnoxious.

So, I just wanted you to know that I am so happy here. Oct. 10th has always been a sad day for mom. But since she got me, it is now a happy day. She even became a great aunt this morning. That is fitting since I always thought that she was a great mom.

I think that I might be a cross between a schnauzer and a yorkie, but mom likes to call me her little schnoodle, so we're sticking with it. I was going to send a picture of me, but mom's computer crashed last week. I don't know what that means, I didn't hear any crash, but, I DIDN'T DO IT!

Again, thank you foster mom. Love Ginger.







After everything in Justice's life, many would think he has a broken soul; <u>that</u> couldn't be further from the truth. Justice has a great spirit and a funny, playful, loving personality.

To adopt this precious pet or see so many others that need a loving home, click here. <u>collincountyhumanesociety.org/available-dogs.html</u>

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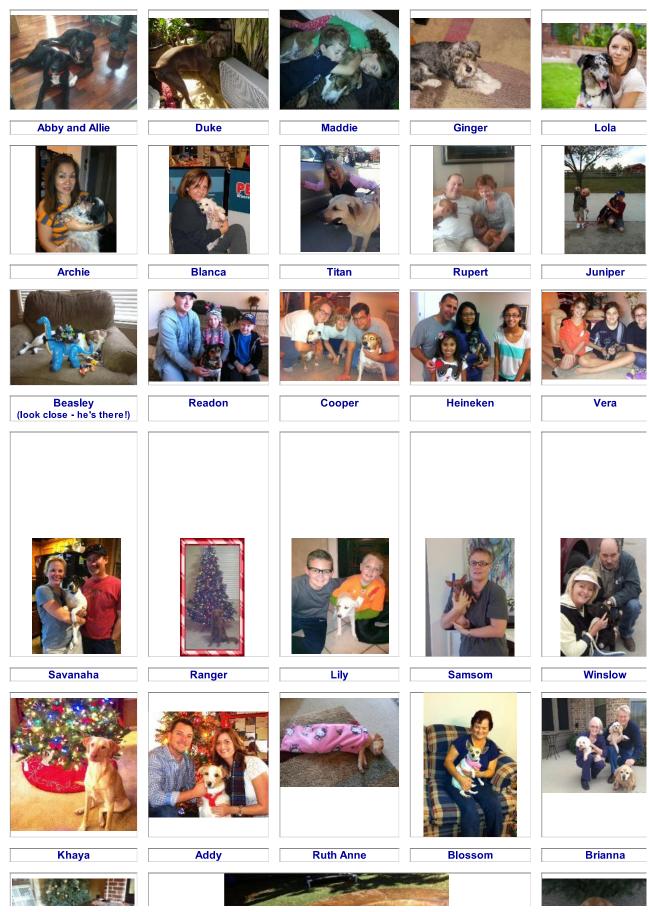






Happy Tails

## Happy Tails



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Happy Tails







## The Curse of Sonny and Cher By Molly Peterson, President/Director CCHS

Hooowdy, I'm Sonny (of Sonny and Cher). You might remember me from a year ago when me and my lady friend were thrown in jail... left scratching our heads as to what we did wrong. The home I had known for 8 years told us that they didn't have time for us any more << yea, again, no idea what that meant as Cher and Hooked out for one another... guess they didn't have time to throw food on the porch?>>. These folks at the "Humane Society" took real good care of us. We swam, played fetch << both MY favorite things to do in the whole wide world>> and got lots of attention. They told us that they had good news and bad. Good news was they found me a great home... one that would give me ALL the love, attention and care that I deserve. Bad news is Cher was not coming with. It was a sad day for all when we parted ways but they reassured me that we would both be in good hands. So for the next year I was given anything I needed... cheese burgers, GOT IT! Pizza, ALL MINE! Donuts, pasta, cookies <<shhhh> and more. I never really cared about my figure but once my legs started to give out under me I decided to make a change for the better! I tried to talk to my family about these programs called "weight watchers" or this thing called "exercise" maybe "P90X" << I watch a LOT of TV>> but they were not listening. My joints were getting worse to the point that I couldn't even make it to my bowl... they just brought me food! Talk about enabling, they were the definition.

Sometimes I heard people outside the "fence" so I thought maybe they could help translate, take my food away, call "Jenny Craig" or something! For a month I put on my saddest face and baby stepped into a dramatic fall to the ground. They seemed to take the bait! Horrified by what they saw, the people on the other side of the fence got the message loud and clear! My family took me to the vet for a check up and they talked about "putting me down." I wasn't sure what that meant but judging by their faces I knew it couldn't be good.

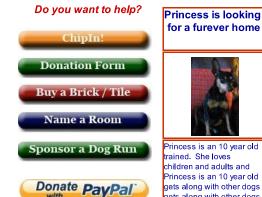
Within two weeks of the visit I was told I would be moved again. I had no idea where I was going or what was going to happen to me. Lipo maybe? Tummy tuck? Fat camp? Oh maybe that show the "Biggest Loser" I would be outstanding at that. They took me to a "shelter" where I was greeted by those people from the "Humane Society!" It took a lot of energy to get to the building from the car, knowing that I was in good hands I laid on the floor for them to take care of the rest.



Back to the vet I went but this time it was different. No tears and LOTS of belly rubs! They tell me we are waiting on a "Thyroid" test <<sounds fancy>> and I was cleared of "Di-a-betes" or something like that. They gave me some fancy treats that make me feel A-MAZING! My foster mom took a silly picture of me (attached) after she gave me these fancy meds for my arthritis. She's so silly. I heard something about water aerobics today which I'm pretty excited about because I LOVE the water. They tell me I will feel better soon so I'm very much looking forward to it.

I also received the great news that Cher has not forgot about me and we are going to meet up this weekend!! I cannot believe it! While I am a little embarrassed about the weight gain, I know she will help motivate me to get it off and keep it off; she's always good like that. Well I am off to bed <<yawn>> and I will keep you posted on my progress! Between you and me, I'm still a little bummed I'm not on the Biggest Loser so if you have any connections, you know how to reach me <<wink>>

Signing off, Sonny







Princess is an 10 year old rained. She loves children and adults and Princess is an 10 year old gets along with other dogs gets along with other dogs and cats. She is a very sweet girl who loves to sit on your lap.

need a loving home, click here. collincountyhumanesociety.org/available-dogs.html

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## UPDATE 11/13/2012

My heart is breaking today as I was informed about the news of my darling Cher's passing. The autopsy revealed that a foreign body (purely conjecture but a possibility the sharp edges of an acorn shell because her stomach had pieces of acorn shell in it) penetrated the esophagus near the heart & major blood vessels. The penetration caused an infection in the lymph nodes at the base of the heart & aorta or vena cava & then moved into the blood stream pouring poison into the major blood vessels. The infection had likely been there a while, contained within the lymph nodes before finally breaking through into a blood vessel, releasing the toxins throughout the body. As I put those words on paper, the reality of her loss has still not set in. Sweet Cher wanted nothing but to be the best doggie she could be, but like me... her love for food cost her her life. More than ever now I am going to dedicate the rest of my life to not letting food take me down too. I love you Cher and will miss you dearly. With your loss I gain strength in knowing we will be together forever again some day, but for now I march on.





## From foster mom:

Despite the tragedy he has endured, Sonny is doing well in foster care. His barking fits demanding food in the kitchen have decreased and he is now able to go up and down the stairs to the 2nd floor of the house. He is making progress with his weight loss plan. He is now just under 140lbs (loss of 12 lbs in 45 days) but should be around 110lbs at his ideal weight. He is great with our toddlers and truly does not have a mean bone in his body. He takes over the counter joint supplements and

other week for the next month a low thyroid so he is on daily place to live out his years in the for you, please complete an c

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FINAL UPDATE 12/28/2012 SONNY HAS BEEN ADOPTED BY THE LYON FAMILY WHERE HE IS MAKING PROGRESS WITH HIS WEIGHT LOSS EVERY DAY! My Journey To CCHS



1/17/13



My Journey To CCHS By Heather L. Bass, Fundraising Coordinator

It's a question that I get asked quite often "How did you come to be a member of Collin County Humane Society? " My answer is very simple - It began with an e-mail with the subject line titled Hera.

In February, 2010 my husband Jeff wanted a puppy. He had lost his beloved dog Rocky four years prior and felt he was ready for another dog. At that time we had two senior dogs but he really wanted a puppy. So he looked all over the Internet and came across CCHS's website and there he saw a puppy named Hera. From the moment he saw her picture and read her bio she stole his heart. We filled out the online application and waited anxiously to hear back. We then received the following e-mail (yes, I have kept this e-mail response for 2 ½ years). Heather & Jeff, We have received your application for Hera. I am her foster Mom and will be processing your application. Before we begin the process, please take the time to read the following information: <u>http://collincountyhumanesociety.org/adoption-fees.html</u>. Let me know if all this is agreeable to you and we can proceed from there! First thing I do is a home visit and then you can come visit the puppies! Ilook forward to hearing from you! Thanks so much for your support of our organization! Ashley N. Pickering Volunteer/Foster Collin County Humane Society. And with that e-mail our journey to CCHS began!

Hera became a member of our family on February 18, 2010. We would send her foster mom Ashley pictures of her all the time and even took Hera to adoption events that Ashley was working at so she could see Her. Jeff and I became friends with Ashley and her Husband Chris over this time period an I would talk with her often about adopting another dog, one closer in age to Hera. In September we reached out to Ashley about another litter of puppies she had. Ashley thought a puppy she had named Sadie would be a perfect fit for Hera. Sadie joined our family in September 2010.

In July of 2011 we lost our oldest dog Emmi to cancer and in her memory we decided to start fostering for the organization. Fostering has brought us so much joy, to help a dog go to their furever home and know that family feels the same joy and excitement we felt when we adopted Hera & Sadie.

In June of 2012 I was honored to be asked to join the Board of Collin County Humane Society as their Fundraising Coordinator. Adopting Hera & Sadie from CCHS has brought more to my life then I could have ever imagined.



Ashley and Heather



Hera Adoption



Hera and Sadie



Crystal is looking for a furever home



Crystal is the Sweetest Little Princess. She loves to be snuggled and to have her tummy rubbed. She is about one and half years old - Collie-Lab mix in need of a home of her very own.

Sol

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Tree

She Loves her toys but her favorite thing is to sit in your arms to be snuggled.

To adopt this precious pet or see so many others that need a loving home, click here. <u>collincountyhumanesociety.org/available-dogs.html</u>



Sho Ho Ha Son lour Aalte Tree

Gus was settling into his new foster home and given a much needed bath.

When the day arrived to visit the ophthalmologist we were a bit nervous. I had read up on glaucoma and was concerned about the outcome. Tests were run and it was confirmed. Gus had glaucoma in his left eye. My heart sank for this precious boy. His pressure in his eye was extremely high and no doubt painful. The doctor put him on several different medications to see if we could get the pressure under control. At this time Gus was transferred to his permanent foster home.

As the days went by it was apparent Gus was feeling a little bit better but his eye was still swollen. Two weeks later at his check up his pressure was down to a normal level. Whew! Maybe the meds were working after all! However, Gus had lost vision in that eye with no hope of regaining it. He was adjusting well and was stabilized. One thing for sure, Gus loves his treats! He doesn't hesitate to let you know with his big baritone bark that he wants a treat!







For the Love of Gus **By Stacy Hague** 

On August 15, 2012, I was contacted by a local animal shelter about a senior basset that had been surrendered due to an eye injury. He was described as "very sweet but a little snappy due

to pain in his eye". I asked her if she could send me a picture. This was the picture I received.

I asked around for a foster and thankfully with a team effort this boy was pulled and transported the very next day. When I met the transport to pick up this boy I knew immediately that his eye

I met his temporary foster mom at one of our regular vets. We decided that his new name would

be Gus! The vet did a thorough examination on Gus and clipped those horribly long nails! He started Gus on some eye drops and referred us to an ophthalmologist that specializes in canine





My heart broke for this poor boy! He looked so defeated.

almost always results in blindness.

ophthalmology.

1/17/13





1/2

As the weeks went by it was apparent that Gus was still in pain and knowing he would never regain site in his eye, we made the hard decision to have it removed. Surgery was scheduled for September 26th. As the day approached we got more and more nervous. We knew he would be fine and adjust; it was us that were having problems! The day came and the surgery went off without a problem. Some of Gus' samples were sent to the University of lowa to help in their aide of glaucoma research. Gus had to stay overnight at the vet to rest and was picked up the next day. He was glad to see his two legged fosters but did not like the cone of shame at all!



Over the next couple of weeks he was recovering well. Then on the morning of October 24th he woke up blind in his other eye. We knew this was a possibility of happening since glaucoma is a

bilateral disease, we just didn't expect it to happen so fast. Gus was rushed back to the ophthalmologist where it was confirmed that glaucoma had set in despite the preventative drops he was on. He is currently on drops three times a day to help keep the pressure down. Gus has gained a little vision back. He seems to see light and shadows. He will continue these drops as long as the pressure down. In the preventative down. In the preventative down with the preventative down. Gus has been as long as the preventative down. The preventative down with the preventative down with the preventative down. He will continue these drops as long as the preventative down. The preventative down with the preventative down with the preventative down. He will continue these drops as long as the preventative down. The preventative down with the preventative down with the preventative down.

Through all of this, Gus has proven to be a tough but sweet boy! He still loves his treats, he still loves to follow his foster mom around and he still loves to cuddle!







**Maltese Miracles! By Stacy Hague** 

When Stacy Smith with Humane Society of Flower Mound contacted me about these 51 Maltese dogs that were dumped in our town in October, I was stunned. This is Flower Mound! Things like this do not happen in our quiet little town! Sadly, it did happen. 51 dumped breeder dogs in the darkness of the night on a rural country road.



I asked how could CCHS help. What can we do? A few days later I met up with Stacy and a few other volunteers from HSFM at Flower Mound Animal Services. We were there to evaluate and screen all 51 dogs. When I walked into the first room, I stood there in shock. These poor precious babies were so matted and so filthy that they could barely move. It was hard to see that there was an actual dog under all that matted mess. I slipped away and shed a few tears. How in the world can anyone do this? This was a first for me. I gathered my emotions and went back to the group. It was time to get to work.

Do you want to help? ChipIn **Donation Form** Buy a Brick / Til Name a Room Sponsor a Dog Run Donate PayPal

Emma is looking for a furever home Sho

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Emma was rescued from shelter on the Oklahoma/Texas border and had a rough start. Her Oklahoma/Texas border ind had a rough start. Hei siblings and her were born under a house and had verv little human contact. Emma was very scared at first but has blossomed in ner foster home! She is getting used to going out in public and likes to watch Malte what is going on. Her personality is showing she is one spunky girl! Emma would love to become part Tree

To adopt this precious pet or see of With any others that need a loving home, click here. collincountyhumanesociety.org/available-dogs.html



One by one, each dog was evaluated. Some were friendly, some stayed in the back of their cages, some growled, and some gave kisses. Thankfully some had already been groomed of their filth with the rest to be done the following day. It was a long day. There were so many emotions going through my mind. I will never ever forget the smell in those rooms. It was horrible. I can't even image what all these babies had to endure. Small cages, laying in their own urine and feces, no human interaction. They had faced a lifetime of cruelty because of someone's greed.

In the meantime, word was sent out to CCHS fosters to see who could take on the challenge of a puppy mill dog? These babies would not be easy to foster. They needed help with their social skills and required much needed medical treatment. Seven wonderful fosters had stepped up!

As release day approached plans were made, fosters were getting ready, vets had been

mhenterpriseonline.com/Maltese\_Miracles.html

called, we were ready. Then the day came. We all met up at Flower Mound Animal Services to pick up our dogs. I gathered up all the ones that had been assigned to us. I couldn't help but get emotional once again as I thought about all 51 of these babies lives were going to change drastically for the better. Never again would they know neglect.

I loaded them one by one, my car ready to head out to meet up with fosters and take two of them to the vet. As the day went on I begin to get pictures and updates on each one. They were no longer numbers now. They had all had names instead of numbers. They were all exploring their new surroundings and getting used to their new life. They felt grass for the first time. They felt what it was like to sleep on a comfortable bed. Most of all, they felt love.

The applications started pouring in! At times it was very hard to keep up. These babies needed special families that could continue their rehabilitation. As each one left for their forever family, I cried again! To know where they had been, to see their transformation, to know that they will never ever be where they were, simply amazing.



Stacy Smith made this wonderful video of these babies journey. Please take a moment to view it, then share it. We must get the word out there that these are the parents of those cute little puppies in the pet stores, on the Internet and in the newspapers.



These are the eyes of puppy mill dogs. http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=g8wXNuhNmy4&feature=youtu.be

If you would like to donate to help CCHS offset the cost of these sweet babies, you can do so here: <u>http://collincountyhumanesociety.chipin.com/maltese-breeder-dog</u>





Thanks to all the supporting business and to all the donors.

Park Cities Surgery Center Benny's Dog Resort Pooch Hotel